

# The Lancaster News.

VOL. 10, NO. 71, SEMI-WEEKLY.

LANCASTER, S. C., FRIDAY, JUNE 11, 1915.

\$1.50 A YEAR.

## WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN QUITS WILSON'S CABINET

Protests Against the Administration's Attitude in the Present German Crisis.

## PRESIDENT WILSON ACCEPTS HIS RESIGNATION

Action Causes Sensation in Official and Diplomatic Circles. President's Letter of Acceptance Tinged With Deep Feeling of Personal Affection for the Retiring Secretary.

Washington, June 8.—William Jennings Bryan, three times Democratic candidate for the presidency of the United States and author of nearly thirty peace treaties with the principal nations of the world, resigned today as secretary of state as a dramatic sequel to his disagreement with President Wilson over the government's policy toward Germany.

The resignation was accepted by the President. The cabinet then approved the response which had been prepared to the German reply to the Lusitania note. Acting Secretary Robert Lansing will sign the document and tomorrow it will be cabled to Berlin.

Secretary Bryan will return to private life tomorrow, when his resignation takes effect. It was learned that he intends to continue his political support of the President.

Rather than sign the document which he believed might possibly draw the United States into war, Mr. Bryan submitted his resignation in a letter declaring that "the issue involved is of such moment that to remain a member of the cabinet would be as unfair to you as it would be to the cause which is nearest my heart, namely, the prevention of war."

The President accepted the resignation in a letter of regret, tinged with deep personal feeling of affection. The letters, constituting the official announcement of Mr. Bryan's departure from the cabinet to private life, were made public at the White House at 6 o'clock tonight.

Secretary Bryan's letter of resignation was as follows:

"My dear Mr. President:  
"It is with sincere regret that I have reached the conclusion that I should return to you the commission of secretary of state with which you honored me at the beginning of your administration.

"Obedient to your sense of duty and actuated by the highest motives, you have prepared for transmission to the German government a note in which I cannot join without violating what I deem to be an obligation to my country and the issue involved is of such moment that to remain a member of the cabinet would be as unfair to you as it would be to the cause which is nearest my heart, namely, the prevention of war.

"I therefore, respectfully tender my resignation, to take effect when the note is sent, unless you prefer an earlier hour. Alike desirous of reaching a peaceful solution of the problems arising out of the use of submarines against merchantmen, we find ourselves differing irreconcilably as to the methods which should be employed.

"It falls to your lot to speak officially for the nation; I consider it to be none the less my duty to endeavor as a private citizen to promote the end which you have in view by means which you do not feel at liberty to use.

"In severing the intimate and pleasant relations which have existed between us during the past two years, permit me to acknowledge the profound satisfaction which it has given me to be associated with you in the important work which has come before the state department, and to thank you for the courtesies extended.

"With the heartiest good wishes for your personal welfare and for the success of your administration, I am, my dear Mr. President,

"Very truly yours,  
(Signed) W. J. BRYAN."

The President's letter to Mr. Bryan was as follows:

"My dear Mr. Bryan:  
"I accept your resignation only because you insist upon its acceptance; and I accept it with much more than deep regret, with a feeling of personal sorrow. Our two years of close association have been very delightful to me. Our judgments have accorded in practically every matter of official duty and of public policy until now, your support of the work and purposes of the administration has been generous and loyal beyond praise; your devotion to the duties of your great office and your eagerness to take advantage of every great opportunity for service it offered has been an example to the rest of us; you have earned our affectionate admiration and friendship. Even now we are not separated in the object we seek, but only in the method by which we seek it.

"It is for these reasons my feeling about your retirement from the secretaryship of state goes so much deeper than regret. I sincerely deplore it. Our objects are the same, and we ought to pursue them together. I yield to your desire only because I must and wish to bid you Godspeed in the parting. We shall continue to work for the same causes even when we do not work in the same way.

"With affectionate regard,  
"Sincerely yours,  
"WOODROW WILSON."

Dramatically the official relation of Mr. Bryan with the administration of the man whose nomination he assisted so materially in bringing about at the Baltimore convention in 1912 came to an end. It caused a sensation in the national capital scarcely paralleled in recent years. Ambassadors, ministers and diplomats from foreign lands, officials of every rank and station, heard the news as it was flashed by newspaper extras tonight. They interpreted variously its effect on the delicate situation that had arisen between Germany and the United States. The resignation of the staunchest advocate of peace in the President's official family spread broadcast the belief that the policy of the United States as definitely determined upon would assert and defend the rights of the United States in any eventuality that might arise.

Originally it was the intention of the President and Mr. Bryan to have the announcement of the resignation made simultaneously with the dispatch of the note to Germany, but when Mr. Bryan did not attend the cabinet meeting until President Wilson sent for him rumors that the President had been unable to bring the secretary of state to his point of view filled the air. Finally, shortly before 6 o'clock the news leaked out and was confirmed.

Just when the subject was first broached between the President and Mr. Bryan is not known definitely, but the fact that Mr. Bryan would resign was known to a small circle of officials as early as last Sunday. When the principles on which the note to Germany should be based were discussed at the cabinet meeting of Friday Mr. Bryan found that he could not reconcile his own position with that of the administration. Work on the note went forward, however, Mr. Bryan keeping his secret, as did other officials, awaiting the hour when the communication would be ready to be cabled.

Today the cabinet assembled for a final reading of the note. Mr. Bryan was absent. He declined to

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## CAPTURE SLOOP FULL OF LIQUOR

Charleston Officers Make Big Seizure.

## BOAT FROM SAVANNAH.

Power Vessel Mary Mister Detained While Cargo Is Carried to Headquarters.

Charleston Special to The State, June 9.—What is a record seizure of contraband liquor was made this evening when a rural policeman and three state constables seized the power sloop Mary Mister, supposed to have come in from Savannah, with a cargo of liquor consigned to unknown persons.

The boat was intercepted near Mount Pleasant and brought to the custom house pier, where her illicit contents were unloaded and transferred to the dispensary headquarters. Two big furniture vans of liquor and three wagonloads were hauled away. While the value of the liquor seized cannot be accurately estimated tonight, it is believed to pass \$3,000, a figure larger by some \$1,000 than the value of stuff so far taken by the constables in the city. The contraband consists mostly of whiskey and wines.

For some time the constables have been patrolling the water front in hopes of intercepting some of the suspected "blockade runners" and tonight they succeeded beyond their expectations when they captured the power sloop.

With the gallon a month law in effect, the tigers have been hard put in getting stuff into the city, but considerable is said to have entered by the "blockade route."

The sloop's crew made no resistance when the rural policeman and constables took charge of the boat. What disposition will be made of the Mary Mister has not yet been decided, but she is being held.

The liquor was contained in demijohns, kegs, cases and barrels.

## ORDER FROM GOVERNOR.

Brief Direction given to "Confiscate Sloop and Liquor."

"Confiscate sloop and liquor." This was the brief order given over the telephone last night by Governor Manning to Sheriff J. Elmore Martin when he informed the chief executive that a sloop loaded with several thousand gallons of whiskey and beer had arrived in Charleston harbor, presumably from Savannah. The sheriff reported that the boat contained many thousand dollars worth of "high grade whiskey."

## SLIDE SMOTHERED TWO LITTLE GIRLS

Daughters of Ed Taylor Lost Lives Under Mass of Earth in Gulley.

Spartanburg Special to The State, June 9.—Valley Taylor, aged 9, and Evelyn Taylor, aged 6, were buried alive and smothered to death beneath an avalanche of dirt from the side of a deep gulley near the home of their father, Ed Taylor, of the Enoree section of Laurens county, this afternoon. The two little girls were playing along the edge of the gulley, which is an old abandoned road, washed by rains to a depth of about 15 feet. It is believed that they slipped over the edge, dislodging a quantity of dirt, which fell upon them. They were buried to a depth of about four feet, and were dead when finally uncovered with shovels. Evelyn's left leg was broken.

The news of the tragedy was brought to the mother of the girls, who was hoeing cotton in the field, by Baxter, their 4-year-old brother, who had been at play with them during the afternoon. About 6 o'clock he ran up to his mother, crying, and between sobs told her that the girls had fallen into the gulley. She immediately gave the alarm and a party of rescuers went to the spot. A physician made every effort to resuscitate the victims, but was unsuccessful.

## LATEST NOTE CALLS FOR SURE GUARANTEE

Asks Germany for Promise That Americans Will be Safe.

## GIVES NO ALTERNATIVE.

Germany Invited to Submit Any Evidence She Has That Americans Did Not Inspect Lusitania.

Washington, June 10.—The United States in its latest note to Germany, made public tonight, formally asks the Imperial government for assurances that measures hereafter will be adopted to safeguard "American lives and American ships" on the high seas. The alternative in case of refusal is not stated.

It was this note to which William Jennings Bryan refused to attach his signature, resigning instead his portfolio of state, thereby precipitating a dramatic cabinet crisis. Robert Lansing, secretary of state ad interim, signed the communication which went forth with the approval of President Wilson and his entire cabinet.

Friendly terms characterize the document, which renews representations made in the American note of May 15 after the Lusitania was torpedoed and sunk. The German government, it is declared "must have been misinformed," when it assumed that the Lusitania carried guns, as official information is at hand to corroborate the original contention of the Washington government—that the Lusitania was an unarmed passenger ship which, since it did not resist capture could not be sunk without transferring passengers and crew to a place of safety.

The communication informs Germany that it is "on the principle of humanity as well as upon the law founded upon this principle that the United States must stand." Opportunity is given to Germany to submit any evidence that American officials did not execute their tasks thoroughly in inspecting the Lusitania before she sailed, but the cardinal fact—that the liner was given no warning and made no resistance and was primarily a passenger ship—the American government declares, throws into the background any special circumstances of detail, "and lifts the case" out of the class of ordinary subjects of diplomatic discussion or of an international controversy.

The issuance of another statement by former Secretary Bryan coincident with the publication of the note tonight added to the surprise in official quarters at the character of Mr. Bryan's argument. High officials said the note employed the very process—persuasion—which Mr. Bryan advocated and did not necessarily lead to war.

A copy of the note was delivered to Count Bernstorff, the German ambassador, who declined to comment.

In diplomatic circles generally the note seemed to create a favorable impression. In quarters friendly to Germany, it was stated that the document confirmed a belief held since Count von Bernstorff's recent interview with President Wilson, that the critical stage had been passed and that with the American viewpoint clearly before it, the German government would be able to find a way out of the dilemma that would satisfy the United States.

One phase of the note which attracted much attention in diplomatic circles was that relating to mediatory steps on the part of the United States looking toward a reformation of warfare on the seas generally. In this connection it was suggested that the chief difficulty might be an insistence by Germany that the allies refrain from interfering, not only with foodstuffs consigned to her civilian population but with raw materials of all kinds.

## Arrives in Berlin.

Berlin, June 10, via London, June 11.—The first sections of the American note to Germany arrived in Berlin late this afternoon and the other sections began coming in early in the evening. The note will be deciphered and presented to Herr von Jagow, the German foreign secretary, tomorrow.

During the afternoon James W. Gerard, the American ambassador,

## BRYAN WILL APPEAL TO PUBLIC TO SUSTAIN HIM

## STARS AND STRIPES ON BRITISH VESSEL

Steamer Colonial Flew American Flag for Forty Hours at Protection Against Submarines.

Boston, June 9.—The British steamer Colonial of the Leyland line flew the American flag for 40 hours as a protection against German submarines while passing through the war zone, according to her commander, Capt. J. McDonald. The Colonial arrived today from Avonmouth, Eng.

It was on May 30, Captain McDonald said, that he was hailed by a British patrol boat, two days out of Avonmouth, and told to "display the flag of a neutral nation or no flag at all." He sent the Stars and Stripes up the staff immediately, he said. He explained that he used the American flag in preference to any other because he could back up his bluff if hailed by speaking in the English language, while if he used that of any other neutral nation, he would be unable to use the language of the flag.

As it developed, no submarines were sighted, the captain said.

This is said to be the first instance in which the American flag has been used by a trans-Atlantic steamer of belligerent nationality since President Wilson's note to England on the subject elicited by the Lusitania's use of the flag last February.

Among the 130 passengers on the steamer, all of whom were men who had crossed to England as horsemen and had been given free transportation on the return, were 90 Americans. A small party of these said they tried to remove the flag from the Colonial's staff, lying awake two nights for the purpose, but the watchfulness of the crew frustrated their designs.

## "PAN-TOTING" STOPPED.

Georgia Town Passes Law Prohibiting Practice Among Servants.

Atlanta, June 9.—The little town of Ocilla has become the cynosure of many municipal eyes in Georgia by the passing of a law in council to break up "pan-toting" among negro servants.

The evil is one which every city, from Atlanta down to the smallest hamlet has to contend with, and it is quite likely that many other communities will model regulations along the line of the Ocilla ordinance.

The legislation is directed purely against the servant who secretly totes a "pan of victuals" home when she leaves her place of employment. "Down with the pan totter" is the cry in Ocilla.

The ordinance provides, it is stated, that any negro woman bearing a pan, bucket, can, or other utensil containing food may be halted and required to exhibit a written order authorizing the carrying away of such foodstuffs.

The mayor of Ocilla, it is reported, has begun enforcing the law vigorously and already several convictions have been secured.

## LITTLE GIRL CHOKED.

Strangled to Death by Cord About Her Neck.

Saluda Special to The State, June 9.—Eugenia Smith, 22-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Smith of the Providence section of this county, was strangled to death Monday afternoon. The child was playing on the piazza and had tied a cord about her neck. She jumped to the ground and the trailing end caught on a nail. The string tightened and choked her to death. Some children who passed saw her lying on the ground and thought that she was asleep. They carried her into the house, where the body was found by the parents on their return.

## To Stop at Tuxpam.

Washington, June 10.—The transport Buford, which is en route for Vera Cruz for refugees, has been instructed to stop at Tuxpam.

called on Herr von Jagow, and was closeted with him for over half an hour.

Statement Causes Great Amazement in Official Quarters.

## HAS TALK WITH PRESIDENT

Affecting Scenes in the State Department When the Retiring Secretary Bade Employees Good-Bye.

Washington, June 9.—William Jennings Bryan retired today as secretary of state. His first act as a private citizen was to issue a statement explaining his reasons for leaving the cabinet and announcing that he intended to lay his views of what the American policy toward Germany should be before the public for judgment.

The statement came as a sensational climax to a day of farewell speeches and good wishes from President Wilson and executive colleagues of the retiring secretary.

In his explanation Mr. Bryan revealed that the President had not felt justified in adopting two suggestions made by his secretary of state—that an offer should be made to Germany to submit the questions in dispute with the United States to an international commission for investigation during a year's time and that meanwhile Americans should by proclamation be warned not to take passage on any belligerent ships or on American vessels carrying ammunition. These propositions Mr. Bryan expects to urge upon the people "in the hope of securing such an expression of public sentiment as will support the President in employing these remedies if in the future he finds it consistent with his sense of duty to favor them."

Mr. Bryan's statement was received with undisguised amazement in official quarters. No comment was made at the White House but some high officials indicated that they believed it most unfortunate that so profound an expression of opinion should be made public while the discussion with Germany was in progress.

It became known, too, that Mr. Bryan told his colleagues in a general way of the contents of his statement and some had advised against it.

The principle advocated by Mr. Bryan is embodied in treaties of peace negotiated by the United States with 30 nations, and was accepted by Germany, although no convention ever was drafted. The statement is a condensation of the argument which Secretary Bryan has been making repeatedly to President Wilson in the last few weeks and upon which he hopes to build up a public sentiment in the United States that will make war with Germany impossible.

The issuance of the explanation had been timed to coincide exactly with the dispatch of the American note to Germany. Mr. Bryan had previously informed some officials of the character of the statement. All of them stood with the President.

The retiring secretary left the state department shortly after 1 o'clock. The note was put on the telegraph wires at 2 o'clock when Mr. Bryan's resignation went into effect.

From the state department Mr. Bryan went to the White House where President Wilson received him. For 15 minutes the President and Mr. Bryan talked, exchanging words of farewell. The secretary was making his last official call on the President but nevertheless the personal element was apparent.

Cordially and without any trace of feeling, the two men talked of the situation which resulted in Mr. Bryan's resignation. Each spoke dispassionately of the differences and of his belief that the other was doing what he thought best for the United States. Those who saw them together were touched with the incident. Each spoke of his regret at severing

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